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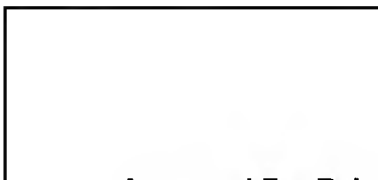
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WESTERN EUROPE - COMMUNIST CHINA: Austria plans to
open recognition talks with Communist China soon.

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WESTERN EUROPE - COMMUNIST CHINA: THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT PLANS TO OPEN RECOGNITION NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMMUNIST CHINA SOON, AND BELGIUM MAY SEEK NEGOTIATIONS ON EXCHANGING DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES EARLY NEXT YEAR.

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25X1 [REDACTED] THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD SECRETARY ROGERS ON 19 OCTOBER THAT HE HAS SENT A REPORT TO HIS PARLIAMENT'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PROPOSING RECOGNITION OF PEKING ON THE BASIS OF THE CANADIAN FORMULA. The Austrians have previously warned that their neutrality would require a new policy toward Communist China if additional NATO members recognized Peking. The government now has apparently only to secure agreement from the major opposition party, which should not be difficult. Public announcement of the Austrian initiative is likely this week, and may influence other governments which are debating the issue of Peking's admission to the UN.

Belgium, which claims to have already implicitly recognized Communist China, has authorized some of its diplomats to make contact with the Chinese to determine their interest in establishing diplomatic relations. The Belgians, in addition to having a special problem with Peking arising from the imprisonment of one of their nationals, are at present not willing to break relations with Taipei.

Luxembourg has recently indicated that it will not be far behind Belgium on the recognition issue. It has decided to switch from opposition to abstention in regard to the Albanian resolution which would replace Taiwan with Peking in the UN. [REDACTED]

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